



An ARCEC Monthly Publication

August 2012

Counterpoise Editor - Joe Bennett KJ6VMX

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## WAMO Net at Fred's on June 30th 2012



The Saturday June 30th 2012 WAMO Net was recently held at Fred's Drive in just off 2nd Ave. in El Cajon. This was the third in a series of remote locations the Net has operated from, and was a good location that was attended by a number of people on site as well as on the radio. Good food, good company, and a good time was had by all. More remote WAMO Nets are in the works, and will be announced as locations have been selected and scouted out. Many thanks to KJ6GOO (Heather), KJ6BFT (Margaret), KI6UPY (Joseph), KI6TTF (Joseph) and of course KJ6BFS (Cheryl) for operating the remote site and WAMO Net.

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### ARCEC Repeater Frequencies

2 Meter Repeater	220 MHZ Repeater	440 MHZ Repeater
TX 146.475	TX 220..480	TX 440.900
RX 147.420	RX 224.080	RX 445.900
Offset .945	Offset 1.6	Offset 5.00
PL 107.2	PL 107.2	PL 107.2

Next meeting is on Sept. 13th @ 7 pm

First Lutheran Church

867 S. Lincoln Ave. El Cajon, CA

# Report for after Simplex Operation Day held on August 5th 2012

By Daniel KJ6IOB

KJ6DWX, K6ABZ and KJ6IOB participated in this event sponsored by the PAPA system simplex ([www.papasys.com](http://www.papasys.com)) . The location we decided to operate from was at Lake Jennings, operating strictly on battery power. We used KJ6IOB's Yaesu ft-857d with K6ABZ's 5 element Yagi. Lake Jennings' altitude is 762ft, and we had the Yagi mounted on an 18 - 20ft pole. The operating frequencies that we used designated for this exercise where Analog



VHF: 145.450 MHz net control from LA County at Baldwin Hills 144.460 MHz net control was in San Marcos, CA at Double Peak Park The main lesson learned from this exercise was; the close proximity of the two frequencies was causing interference with each other. We did not hear net control till about 10am. While we waited for net control we made contact with Newhall, CA

(KJ6SML) being the furthest contact for the exercise and about 21 others. LA County Net control was KI6LOB San Marcos, CA Net control was KJ6ACO Richard (N6WWC) and his wife showed up for a bit and we socialized and talked radio. While Karen, Tom and Dan were doing the simplex exercise Tom's daughter and Karen's granddaughter was busy hiking up and down the hill and playing. Around 11am we fired up the grill and grilled up some hot dogs and simple lunch that we also shared with the Rangers.



**SAN DIEGO, CA:**  
**Store Hours:**  
**10AM-5:30PM Mon - Sat**  
**Telephone hours:**  
**9:30AM-5:30PM Mon-Sat**  
**858-560-4928**

# Installing a vertical antenna mast the easy way

by

Joe Bennett – KJ6VMX

The property that I currently live at presented me with some challenging opportunities in mounting my Amateur Radio antennas. I needed to install a modified Solarcon A-99 vertical for 10 meters. The plan was to utilize the 6 foot tall chain link fence, as it provided a number of quite solid 2.5 inch diameter poles that could be used in mounting the mast. The mast consists of various combinations of 1.25 inch and 1.5 inch EMT electrical conduit. I like to use EMT as it is extremely strong and rigid, and is relatively cheap at most hardware stores. The poles are drilled to 3/8 inch and bolted together with carriage bolts. I typically will allow a 12 inch overlap of the poles to give plenty of strength at each joining section

For the A-99 I used two 1.5 inch and one 1.25 inch conduits. This gave me a total length of 27 feet 5 inches when assembled. With a antenna height of 17 feet 6 inches and other slight variables, this put the feed point at about 29 feet with an overall height above ground of about 38 feet. Not too bad for an un-guyed mast. The mast itself was bolted directly to the fence post with more 3/8 inch carriage bolts. The hardest thing was how to raise the antenna off the ground and get it vertical so that it could be bolted to the fence post. I actually pondered this dilemma for several days after assembly of the mast and antenna. While it sat on saw horses awaiting installation I thought about how I would be able to raise it to a vertical position with only myself and the XYL to do the job. I finally had an epiphany and with a bit more thought came up with the solution that would allow for a safe installation with minimal man (and woman) power involved. I drilled and installed a carriage bolt into the fence post, bolting it tightly with a matching nut.

Then I drilled a hole into the bottom of the mast at about 4 inches from its lower end. We then carefully arranged the mast so that it was leaning up on the edge of the roof with its base near the fence post and bolt location. I then lifted and twisted the mast base until it matched the bolt, slid it onto the bolt, and ran the nut loosely onto it to hold the mast in place. After resting a few minutes, I explained to the XYL what we would be doing next. We would both slowly raise the mast up off the roof edge using the lower bolt as a pivot point. Once the mast

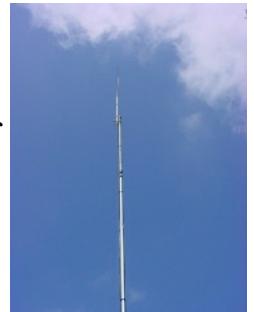


was vertical, I would temporarily tie it to the upper part of the post with a 1 inch wide strap wrapped around the post and mast. Then I would drill a hole

through both the mast and the post near the top of the post so that a bolt could be installed there to affix the mast solidly to the pole. When we were both on the same page

as to what was to happen, we slowly began the lift. Once we overcame the initial inertia of the mast, it went up progressively easier until we reached a vertical position.

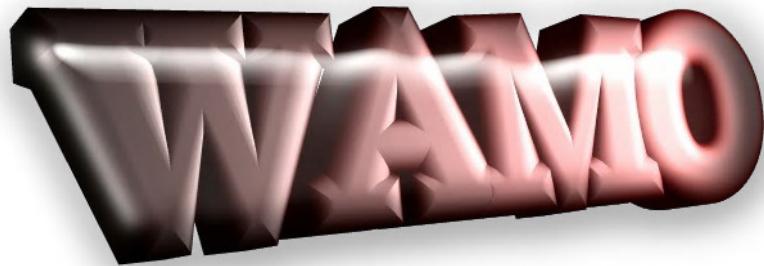
Once there I wrapped the strap around tightly, and then drilled my mounting hole. I installed the top bolt, and removed the strap. The mounting worked great, strong, stable, and much easier than I had expected. After tightening the two bolts, I then routed the coax into the house and hooked it up to my antenna tuner. Now, just have to wait for good DX conditions on 10 meters.



## Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon Club Repeaters

Day	Time	Name	Description	Net Control	Repeater
Sunday					
Monday	7:00 pm	Donut Net	Trivia & general interest questions	KI6RRN Axel	ARCEC
Tuesday	8:00 pm	Wide Open Net	Almost anything goes with Frito	N6WKB Frito	ARCEC
Wednesday	8:00 pm	WAMO Net	WAMO contacts, roundtable, buy-sell, swap, 73 round	KJ6IOB Daniel	ARCEC
Thursday	7:00 pm	Fritos 10 Meter Net	Starts on 10M and moves to 2M	N6WKB Frito	ARCEC
Friday					
Saturday	8:00 pm	WAMO Net	Roundtable, sell-buy-swap, club news, 73 round	KJ6BFT Margaret KJ6GOO Heather	ARCEC

Work All Members Once



### WA6BGS web site - interesting happenings

See WA6MHZ's (Pat) adventures at the Dayton Hamfest and what treasures he brought back.

Visit the Members Only Forum and see some of the posts being discussed there and pictures being shared as well.

Check out the important club related documents, minutes, reports, and other vital information available to all members of ARCEC.

Look at how well Field Day 2012 went and see photos of this event as well as the club picnic in Crest too.

All this and more at [www.wa6bgs.us](http://www.wa6bgs.us) TODAY!!!!

## Contact Information:

Web Site: [www.wa6bgs.us](http://www.wa6bgs.us)

President: [president@wa6bgs.us](mailto:president@wa6bgs.us)

Vice President: [vicepresident@wa6bgs.us](mailto:vicepresident@wa6bgs.us)

Secretary: [secretary@wa6bgs.us](mailto:secretary@wa6bgs.us)

Treasurer: [treasurer@wa6bgs.us](mailto:treasurer@wa6bgs.us)

Counterpoise: [counterpoise@wa6bgs.us](mailto:counterpoise@wa6bgs.us)

Club Phone number is **619-663-6011**

## Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554

Phone: 1-888-225-5322

TTY: 1-888-835-5322

Fax: 1-866-418-0232

E-mail: [fccinfo@fcc.gov](mailto:fccinfo@fcc.gov)



# 2013 Arizona State Convention

9<sup>th</sup> Annual

## Yuma Hamfest

Yuma, Arizona

Feb. 15 & 16, 2013

Yuma County Fairgrounds  
2520 East 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, Yuma, Arizona



**[www.yumahamfest.org](http://www.yumahamfest.org)**

Check the Website for Additional Information  
and a Current Schedule of Activities and Seminars

Gates Open for Camping Thursday, 2 pm  Vendor Setup Friday, 7 am - Noon	Event Hours Friday, Noon - 5 pm Saturday, 8 am - 5 pm	Buzzard BBQ & Grand Prize Drawing Saturday Night 6:00 - 8:00 pm
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**Vendors & Exhibitors**  
**Consignment Sales**  
**License Testing**  
**Hourly Door Prizes**  
**On-site RV Camping**  
**Famous Buzzard BBQ**  
**ARRL Speaker**  
**\$5.00 Admission**

**Tailgating (Swap Meet)**  
**Full Seminar Schedule**  
**DXCC Card Checking**  
**Incredible Grand Prizes**  
**Emergency Preparedness**  
**Admission Prize**  
**Hospitality Area**  
**Antenna Clinic & T-Hunt**

Hamfest Talk-In Frequency: 146.840 (–) PL 88.5 Hz

Email Contact: [info@yumahamfest.org](mailto:info@yumahamfest.org)



We are proud to have the Amateur Radio Council of Arizona (ARCA) as a sponsor of our event.

The Yuma Hamfest is an American Radio Relay League (ARRL) sanctioned event.

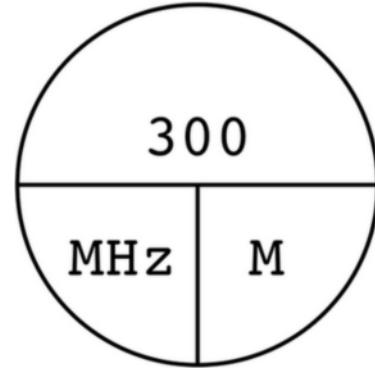
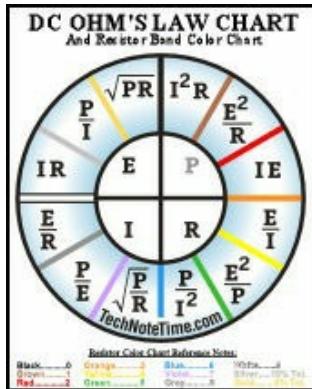


Presented by the Yuma Amateur Radio Hamfest Organization

# Counterpoise Submissions Requested

The Counterpoise is always looking for story ideas and submissions, pictures, and upcoming news articles. You can submit by sending your content to [counterpoise@wa6bgs.us](mailto:counterpoise@wa6bgs.us) in WORD or PDF format. Photos can be sent in JPG, GIF, or most any other popular formats as well. Deadline is typically 7 days from the Members meeting, usually held on the second Thursday of each month. All members are urged to help out the Counterpoise and keep it active and entertaining. Hope to see your submissions soon!!

Joe - Counterpoise Editor - KJ6VMX



## Harvey Hairbuckle-Ham Extroidinaire





# The AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF EL CAJON<sup>Inc.</sup>

## WA6BGS

Post Office Box Fifty, El Cajon California 92022

Founded 1960 ~ Incorporated 1976

Please fill out this form and see the options at the bottom for Submitting options

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Paid: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  Cash or  Check Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type:  Individual (\$20)  Family (\$35)

Membership Status:  New  Renewal  Returning Member

Call Sign: First Name: Last Name: WAMO # (If renewing or returning):

ARRL Member:  Yes  No

License Class:  Technician

General

Extra

Other:

Address: City: State: Zip: PO Box:

Email ID: Phone:

Would you like a member badge?  Yes  No

Add Additional Members Here (Family Package):

First Name	Last Name	Call Sign	License Class	Wamo #	Badge
					<input type="radio"/>
					<input type="radio"/>
					<input type="radio"/>
					<input type="radio"/>
					<input type="radio"/>

#### Submitting This Form

To submit this form mail it to P.O. Box 50 El Cajon, 92022

-OR-

Bring to the next club meeting or go to [www.wa6bgs.us](http://www.wa6bgs.us) and join on line (click on Club info / Join)

**Cash Payments - Get a Receipt from the Club Treasurer. Make all checks payable to AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF EL CAJON, Incorporated. Receipts for payments by check will be sent by email or regular mail by the Club Treasurer.**

**Members with FCC Call Signs are Full Members with voting privileges, Members without FCC Call Signs are Associate members without voting privileges**

**YOUR DUES ARE TAX DEDUCTABLE: Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon, Inc. is a 501©7 Corporation. Donations are NOT tax Deductable.**